

January 30, 2009

DIRECTIVE:	JOB CORPS PROGRAM INSTRUCTION NO. 08-20
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TO: ALL JOB CORPS NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF
ALL JOB CORPS REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF
ALL JOB CORPS CENTER DIRECTORS
ALL JOB CORPS CENTER OPERATORS
ALL NATIONAL TRAINING AND SUPPORT CONTRACTORS
ALL OUTREACH, ADMISSIONS AND CTS CONTRACTORS

FROM: ESTHER R. JOHNSON, Ed.D.
National Director
Office of Job Corps

SUBJECT: Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Hearing Conservation Program Required in Accordance with 29 CFR 1910.95

1. Purpose. To clarify requirements and address frequently asked questions regarding the hearing conservation program required in accordance with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standard on occupational noise exposure, 29 CFR 1910.95, and associated audiometric testing.
2. Background. The National Office of Job Corps has received several inquiries from the field regarding the hearing conservation program required in accordance with 29 CFR 1910.95. While the standard has not changed substantially in recent years, this Program Instruction is intended to provide answers to frequently asked questions about the hearing conservation program and audiometric testing requirements.
3. Action. Job Corps centers are advised to review Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about Hearing Conservation (Attachment A) and OSHA Publication 3074, Hearing Conservation (Attachment B), to determine if a hearing conservation program is necessary. Those centers that perform audiometric testing as part of a hearing conservation program are encouraged to have facilities used for audiometric testing and equipment evaluated to ensure that it meets OSHA requirements or state requirements for centers located in states that maintain their own OSHA-approved safety and health plans. For more information and audiometric testing resources, visit the National Hearing Conservation Association's Web site, <http://www.hearingconservation.org/>. For additional regulatory information, review the OSHA Noise and Hearing Conservation eTool, <http://www.osha.gov/dts/osta/otm/noise/index.html>

Addressees are to ensure that this Program Instruction is distributed to all appropriate staff.

4. Expiration Date. Until superseded.

5. Inquiries. Direct all inquiries to Marsha Fitzhugh at (202) 693-3099 or e-mail fitzhugh.marsha@dol.gov, Kelley Clark at (202) 693-3089 or clark.kelley@dol.gov, or Heather Edmonds at (202) 693-3774 or edmonds.heather@dol.gov.

Attachments

A – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about Hearing Conservation

B – OSHA Publication 3074, Hearing Conservation